

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 DRC-01 NSC-07 CIAE-00 PM-07

INR-10 L-03 NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

USIA-15 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 OMB-01 /110 W

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R 191415Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO JCS WASHDC

SECSTATE WASHDC 1189

INFO CINCEUR VAIHINGEN

CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN

CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG

S E C R E T BONN 04374

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, GW

SUBJECT: LOGISTIC SUPPORT OF US FORCES BY FRG

REF: JCS 7372 (J-4)

1. IN OUR OPINION, THE APPROACH TO THE LOGISTIC SUPPORT PROBLEM OUTLINED IN JCS 7372 IS FAR MORE LIKELY TO BRING ABOUT GERMAN COOPERATION THAN PREVIOUS USG PROPOSALS. AS WE UNDERSTAND THE FRG POSITION, DEFENSE MINISTRY IS PREPARED TO ENGAGE IN COOPERATIVE EFFORTS WITH US TO RATIONALIZE OUR LOGISTIC SYSTEMS IN ORDER TO SAVE MONEY AND MANPOWER AND INCREASE EFFICIENCY. WHAT THE GERMANS HAVE FEARED, HOWEVER, WAS ANY ATTEMPT ON OUR PART TO SHIFT THE COSTS OF OUR OWN LOGISTIC SYSTEM TO THEIR SHOULDERS. THEY HAVE REPEATEDLY SAID THEY COULD NOT ACCEPT ANY US PROPOSALS TO THIS EFFECT BECAUSE ANY COSTS WOULD NECESSARILY HAVE TO COME AT THE EXPENSE OF FRG COMBAT FORCES. IN FACT, REAR ADMIRAL TREBESCH RECENTLY REMARKED TO US THAT IF WE PRESSED THE MOD TOO HARD ON TAKING OVER PARTS OF THE US LOGISTIC SYSTEM, HE WOULD BE FORCED TO END THE DISCUSSIONS. THE POINT

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WAS, HE SAID, THAT THE MOD HAD NO FUNDS TO TAKE OVER ANY

LOGISTIC FUNCTIONS AND FURTHERMORE, HAD NO PROSPECTS OF OBTAINING ANY.

2. WE BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT IF NEGOTIATIONS ARE BASED ON EXCHANGES OF FUNCTIONS WHICH WOULD LOWER COSTS OR RATIONALIZE FUNCTIONS FOR BOTH SIDES, THE GERMANS WILL BE READY TO LISTEN AND DO THEIR BEST TO DEVELOP JOINT PROPOSALS. WE ARE NOT OPTIMISTIC THAT THE MOD STAFF WILL BE ABLE TO IDENTIFY QUICKLY APPROPRIATE ITEMS OR AREAS FOR RATIONALIZATION, BUT WE DO NOT DOUBT THEY WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO COOPERATE WITH US.

HILLENBRAND

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY ASSISTANCE, MILITARY LOGISTICS, COST ESTIMATES, NEGOTIATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 MAR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974BONN04374  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740058-1010  
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**Original Classification:** SECRET  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** JCS 7372 (J-4)  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 07 MAY 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <07 MAY 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <31 JAN 2003 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** LOGISTIC SUPPORT OF US FORCES BY FRG  
**TAGS:** MILI, GE, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005